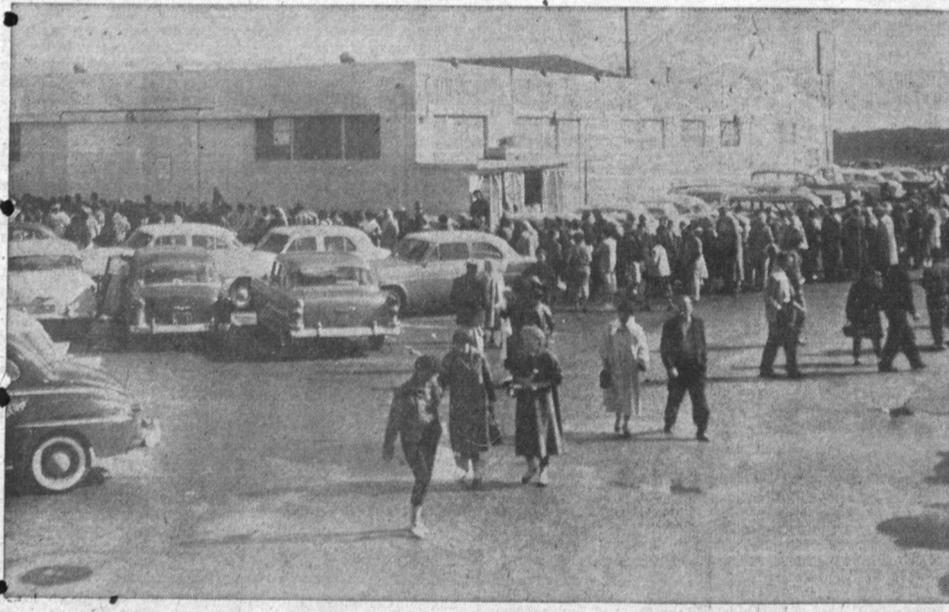




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LINING UP FOR SALE—Huge crowd of eager shoppers awaited opening of Certi-Bond store Thursday. Line extended around entire building, with crowd estimated at more than 2000. By the



FIRST ARRIVALS—This quartet, looking somewhat weary, waited for 37 hours for doors to open. From left, Robert DueRee, Ronald Barr, Vince Pakusch and Art Watson, spent two nights in the cold and rain in front of door. They took turns eating, and management served them coffee.



WHAT HE CAME FOR—Robert Due Ree, 24, first man in line, raced into store to claim a \$22 refrigerator, one of three offered for sale at that price. Salesman Nick Rallo writes up the order. Press Photos.

Bargain Sale Draws 12,000 to Store

One of the longest queues ever seen in Torrance ringed the Certi-Bond store Thursday morning and cars created a gigantic traffic jam for blocks around the place. Cause of the huge throng was a Lincoln's Day Birthday sale which, according to the advertisement in the Torrance Press offered \$38,000 of famous name merchandise at give-away prices.

A long line of eager shoppers ringed the large building completely, waiting for the 10 a.m. opening.

2000 in Line
More than 2000 persons stood in line by the time the doors were opened, and store officials estimated that by the time they closed at 9 p.m., 12,000 shoppers had passed through their door.

The first four persons in line had arrived Tuesday at 9 p.m. to take advantage of the sale. Braving rain and cold, they brought sleeping bags while their families supplied them with food.

Robert DueRee, 24, of 709 1/2 Diamond St., Redondo Beach, Ronald Barr, 19, of 119 W. 226th St., and Vince Pakusch, of 2091 Jaybrook St., San Pedro announced they had come early to claim expensive refrigerators offered for \$22 each.

The fourth man, Art Watson, 28, of 709 Diamond St., Redondo Beach, wanted a \$22 television set.

Worthwhile Wait
They all agreed their long vigil was worthwhile.

"We played 13 1/2 hours of pinochle and chess," DueRee, an apprentice carpenter, said. He was the first one in line, since he had a "hunch" that he better get there early.

By Wednesday morning, other early-bird shoppers arrived, bringing sleeping bags, food, and camp chairs.

DueRee, who felt a cold coming on from the two nights spent outdoors in the rain, received a wild ovation from store employees when he was the first one to be admitted to the store at 10 a.m.

The other two earlybirds also made a scramble to claim their refrigerators, while Salesman Nick Rallo wrote up their orders.

Several police cars were assigned to the area near the store at 501 Arlington Ave., to control traffic which jammed the area. Officers said that cars were lined up as far away as south of Torrance Blvd.

Hope Looms for Superior Court District Here

Hope looms bright that Torrance will eventually become the site of a branch Superior Court District.

That's what City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier will tell the City Council Tuesday.

He said that plans are being made to form eight court districts with multi-judge courts.

One of them is planned in the South Bay area which would include all the cities and unincorporated areas between the Baldwin and Palos Verdes Hills, from the ocean to Alameda Blvd.

Hoax Killer Sets Off Police Hunt

Manhunt Prompted by Joke

What started as a practical joke turned into a grim manhunt Thursday night as police and sheriff's deputies combed the area for the murderers.

It all started when a youth was observed mowed down by a bullet in the parking lot of Shoppers Market, 110 East Carson St.

Witnesses excitedly told deputies that they observed two youths in a cruising car fire a shot. As soon as the gun was fired, the victim grabbed his head and collapsed on the parking lot.

Woman Faints
A red liquid, which gave all the appearance of blood, was immediately observed oozing out of the youth's head. One woman fainted at the sight.

Before the spectators could rush to the fallen youth's help, his inert form was dragged into the gunman's sedan and whisked away.

A description of the get-away car and its license number was flashed to all police units in the area.

Sheriff's cars and California Highway Patrolmen on motorcycles combed the entire Carson area looking for the car.

Sight Car
Approximately 45 minutes later, two officers spotted the vehicle on Figueroa St. near Lomita Blvd.

Alert to the dangerous criminals, they radioed for assistance. By the time they stopped the car, 13 policemen had converged at the scene, their guns drawn.

The occupants of the car, M. Anderson, 19, and Dale Baker, 18, both Marines, surrendered meekly.

They told officers that they just wanted to pull a practical joke.

Officers said that Anderson had posed as the victim, and later washed his face and changed his catsup-stained shirt in a service station.

A third youth, identified as Dennis Leach, 20, who had been at the scene of the shooting, had already gone home.

The two Marines were turned over to the Shore Patrol, while Leach was released after questioning.

Officials Confer on Hollywood Riviera Drain

Councilmen and engineering officials of two cities expressed different views of how to correct an apparent mistake in the installation of the Hollywood Riviera storm drain at a special meeting Wednesday.

While Redondo Beach councilmen wanted to spend \$20,000 to correct a flooding condition at Paseo de la Playa and Calle Miramar, Torrance officials believe the job can be done for \$8500.

Both cities' representative agreed that something should be done to correct the \$27,000 drain, which is said to be seven inches too high to take flood waters.

Delay Board Meet
The Torrance School Board's meeting regularly scheduled for Tuesday has been postponed until Friday, Feb. 24, at 8 p. m.

The meeting day was changed because Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent, and Assistant Superintendents Albert N. Fosner and S. E. Waldrip will be attending the American Association of School Administrators' meeting during the week.

ORIENTATION SESSION
87 students at the Stephen M. White Junior High School were guests at orientation parties held in their honor at the school this past week.



ALL THEIR OWN—Mrs. George Hougasian of Torrance, plays with her daughter, Irene, 10 months, who became legally hers following adoption proceedings of children of minority parentage this week. The Hougasians have been happily married for 11 years, but wanted to fulfill their dreams of having a child. They are so happy with Irene, that they are planning to adopt another child later. Press Photo by Dot Daniel.

Adoption of Infant Caps Couple's Dream

Little Irene Hougasian is a very happy baby but her joy can't match that of her two very proud parents.

Irene, one of 20 children of minority and mixed parentage adopted in the mass proceedings in Superior Court Wednesday, is the fulfillment of their hopes and dreams.

"Our marriage of 11 years has been a very happy one," says New England born Mrs. Hougasian "but my husband, George, and I prayed for a child to make it complete."

War Orphan
Unable to have a child of their own, the Hougasians, both of Armenian descent, first thought of bringing a war orphan to America through the immigration service.

"They told us there was no hope," says Mrs. Hougasian, of 22726 Draille Drive, "all the quotas were filled."

At the suggestion of the immigration service the couple applied at the Los Angeles County Adoption Agency.

Long List
"We were on the bottom of a very long list but the 2 1/2 year wait was well worth it," added Mrs. Hougasian, smiling at her gurgling 10-month-old daughter.

"When they called to say they had a little girl for us to see I was so thrilled I could hardly believe it. Her big brown sparkling eyes won us immediately," says Mrs. Hougasian, wife of a die finisher.

"There were a lot of papers to fill out and many questions. But it was a small price to pay for the assurance that Irene can never be taken from us," she added.

"When the required year is up, we will put in for another child. Just as the last time the couple will state no preference for boy, girl or nationality."

Added Mrs. Hougasian, holding her plump, dark eyed charmer, "It might be nice to have a family of three youngsters, who knows?"

Civil War Buff Visits School

A former Torrance High student returned to his old alma mater last week to give a talk to a class taught by his former instructor.

Peter LaRosa, whose hobby is collecting facts and studying about the Civil War, returned to Wesley Peterson's American history class to tell the students about it.

A bank employe now, LaRosa was a student in Peterson's class at the time he attended Torrance High.

Cite Peril in Move of Signal

Moving of a signal and boulevard stop on Torrance Blvd. was ordered by the City Council, despite a warning by Councilman Nickolas O. Drake that this will meet with protests of parents.

The Traffic Commission recommended that the signal at Torrance Blvd. and Fern Ave. be moved to Torrance and Hickory Ave. It also recommended that the flashing stop sign at Torrance Blvd. and Hickory Ave., be moved to Palos Verdes Blvd. and Calle Miramar.

Police Chief Percy Bennett said that the signal at the present location is activated only during school hours and is confusing to motorists. He said that at the new location, it could be synchronized with the signal at Crenshaw Blvd.

Drake said the change would make the crossing guard's post extremely dangerous.

"I wouldn't have it for \$100 a day," the councilman said, in abstaining from voting.

Jury Convicts Housewife, 28, of Panhandling

Margie Dutton will be sentenced Wednesday by Municipal Judge Otto B. Willett, after a jury found her guilty of a begging charge.

Mrs. Dutton, 28, who was nabbed by police after she collected \$9 from a sewing class at Torrance Woman's Club, told the jury that she was not panhandling but was "willing to work."

But a jury found her guilty after 30 minutes deliberation.

Pending sentencing, her bail was raised from \$100 to \$500.

Police said that Mrs. Dutton had more than \$100 on her when she was arrested and also said she owned four houses.

MINING FILM SHOWN
Paul B. Wallace will present a color film program on gold and silver mining in the Feather River California area, to the Feb. 17 meeting of the Palos Verdes Gem and Mineral Society. Guests and visitors may attend the meeting held at the California Hall, 1932 Pacific Coast Hwy., Lomita.

Red Cross Head Takes Problem to Other Self

When the Torrance-Lomita Red Cross campaign chairman sought some legal advice this week, he could turn to a nearby source.

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier ran into a problem when he requested permission to hang street banners in his double role as Torrance-Lomita Red Cross chairman.

To a pointed question by councilmen if the Red Cross would take out insurance to protect the city in case of a claim, Remelmeier replied in the negative.

"In my other role as city attorney I'll better check on this and report back to you next week," he finally decided.

Southwest Park Officer Slate to Be Installed

New officers of the Southwest Park Civic Association will be installed Feb. 27 at 8 p. m. at the Alondra Club, 16400 Prairie Ave., Lawndale.

Heading the list of new officers is Mrs. Eve Bisou, who was elected president, succeeding R. P. (Pat) Hogue. She will be assisted by Robert Mason, vice-president; Mrs. Frill Fischer, treasurer; Mrs. Bea Wade, secretary; and board members Mrs. Phyllis Ross, Mrs. Millie Jures and Jack Irving.

The next regular meeting will be held March 2 at the Carl Steele School at 8 p. m.

X-RAYS GIVEN

A mobile chest x-ray unit of the Los Angeles City Schools will be on the Harbor College Campus Feb. 16, 17 and 18 to provide free chest x-ray service to HJC students and all city school instructors and personnel, according to an announcement today by William H. McMasters, dean of admissions and guidance at the college.